



IN THE UNITED STATES
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Albert K. Chin
APPLICATION NO.: 09/635,345
FILING DATE: August 9, 2000
TITLE: Apparatus and Methods for Subxiphoid Endoscopic Access
EXAMINER: Thomas C. Barrett
GROUP ART UNIT: 3738
ATTY. DKT. NO.: 80121-07179

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner For Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, on the date shown below:

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**AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR CONTINUED
EXAMINATION UNDER 37 CFR § 1.114**

Sir:

Responsive to the final action dated March 16, 2006 received in the patent application identified above, and in substitution of the Amendment Under 35 CFR § 1.116 that was timely filed on or about May 10, 2006 in this Application, Applicant requests continued examination of the claims as amended herein in

consideration of the references cited in the attached Information Disclosure Statement.